

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Lindsay and members. I just want to go on record that I thanked Senator Schimek last night off the record for bringing the amendment that she did and for speaking out against what was happening in LB 961. I have that same feeling, that we take cigarette money and toss it into a convention center or whatever it is they're going to do in Omaha. No plans, as far as I know, have been drawn for what it is they are proposing and it bothers me, it concerns me because I'm getting all these vibes too from down the hall that the vetoes are coming, some of them have already come. LB 1136 is at risk. We never can...we can't, even if the Supreme Court would allow us to pay it, we will always have trouble finding money to try to repay the Commonwealth depositors. We think we can save money on welfare but we can toss cigarette money into this. So I just have a strange feeling about that convoluted piece of legislation some of you put together yesterday. Supposedly, we don't have a conference committee, but when something like that goes on with just a certain group of people putting a piece of legislation together, then that almost parallels, I think, I think it does parallel the conference committee. It was not done here on the floor, it was explained on the floor, but it was all planned ahead of time and no hearing, as far as I know, on some of it. The Nebraskaplex was brought to Appropriations a couple of times, but I always had reservations about it just for because of the money and because of the fact that, as Senator Schimek said yesterday, people all across the State of Nebraska who smoke are going to help pay for that and then the irony of it will be that they won't allow them to smoke in that building, right? Probably not. But at any rate, I do thank you, Senator Schimek, for speaking out and I have the same feelings and I guess we're stuck with it at the moment, but I hope by next year maybe we can retrieve some of it. Thank you.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you. Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. Speaker and members, I stand up somewhat perplexed with some of the criticism that went on last night and the people that are doing it because I really think in many ways what occurred last night probably benefited some of those people the most. For one, since a good chunk of the money is eventually going to go to LB 309, obviously the major benefactor...half of that money goes into higher education and the other half goes into state government, that's where that money will go. And the simple fact that, though I was supportive of